

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-08
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O R 261813Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5077
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01538

E.O. 11662: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PGOV WB GE UR GW US UK FR
SUBJECT: INCREASE IN REICHSBAHN TARIFFS FOR ALLIED
MILITARY TRAINS TO BERLIN

REFS: (A) USBER 269 DTG 261400Z JAN 77;
(B) USBER 268 DTG 261404Z JAN 77;
(C) BONN 1472 DTG 261015Z JAN 77

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP HAS REVIEWED ITS RECOM-
MENDATIONS FOR RESPONDING TO THE REICHSBAHN TARIFF
INCREASE IN THE LIGHT OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BERLIN
MISSIONS. THE BONN GROUP CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE
APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS SHOULD CONTAIN A PRECAUTIONARY
WARNING AGAINST ANY INTERFERENCE WITH THE RUNNING OF
THE ALLIED TRAINS TO BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

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1. AS REFLECTED IN REFTELS, BERLIN MISSIONS WERE
DISCUSSING HOW TO RESPOND TO THE REICHSBAHN ANNOUNCEMENT
OF A TARIFF INCREASE ON JANUARY 25 AT THE SAME TIME AS
THE BONN GROUP.

2. THE UK REP (HITCH) REOPENED THE QUESTION AT THE
JANUARY 26 BONN GROUP MEETING IN THE LIGHT OF THE

REPORT HE HAD RECEIVED OF THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED IN
BERLIN (THE SAME REPORT AS IN REF A).

3. THE BONN GROUP AGREED THAT RECOMMENDATIONS A AND
B IN PARA 5 OF REF (A) WERE CONSISTENT WITH THE LINE
OF ACTION WHICH HAD ALSO BEEN AGREED IN BONN. SEVERAL
REPS HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED LINE OF
ARGUMENTATION IN PARA 5.C, REF (A). IT WAS AGREED
THAT NO DECISION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME AND
THAT IF THE SOVIETS RETURN WITH A PROPOSAL THE
ALLIED RESPONSE SHOULD BE DECIDED IN THE LIGHT OF THE
SPECIFICS OF THE SOVIET APPROACH.

4. THE PROPOSED APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS WAS DISCUSSED
ONCE MORE WHEN REF (B) ARRIVED DURING THE COURSE OF THE
BONN GROUP MEETING. DESPITE THE ARGUMENTATION
CONTAINED IN PARA 1, REF (B), ALL BONN GROUP REPS
WERE FIRMLY OF THE OPINION THAT THE PRE-FEBRUARY 1
APPROACH TO THE SOVIETS SHOULD INCLUDE CLEAR MENTION
OF THE FACT THAT THE ALLIES EXPECT THE SOVIETS TO SEE
TO IT THAT ALLIED TRAINS CONTINUE TO MOVE UNHINDERED.
SUCH A STATEMENT SEEMS ONLY PRUDENT IN THE LIGHT OF
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NO EVIDENCE
OF ANY INTENTION TO INTERFERE WITH THE ALLIED TRAINS
AFTER FEBRUARY 1.
STOESSEL

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